



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Great Plains Regional Office  
115 Fourth Avenue S.E. Suite 400  
Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
DESCRM  
MC-208

APR 10 2012

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendent, Fort Berthold Agency

FROM: Regional Director, Great Plains Region

SUBJECT: Supplemental to Environmental Assessment

A Categorical Exclusion has been completed in compliance with the regulations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. The proposed Supplemental Categorical Exclusion is for information tiering off of an existing Environmental Assessment for Saddle Butte Pipeline, and authorizes substitution of an eight inch gas line or up to a 6 inch water line in place of the previously approved four inch gas line. No new surface disturbances will be associated with the proposed action.

All the necessary requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act have been completed. Attached for your files is a copy of the Categorical Exclusion.

If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Bercier, Regional Environmental Scientist, Division of Environment, Safety and Cultural Resources Management, at (605) 226-7656.

Attachment

cc: Tex Hall, Three Affiliated Tribes (with attachment)  
Elgin Crows Breast, THPO (with attachment)  
Derek Enderud, BLM, Dickinson, ND (with attachment)  
Grady Wolf, KLJ, (with attachment)  
Jeffrey Hunt, Fort Berthold Agency



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## EXCEPTION CHECKLIST FOR BIA CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS

Date: 4/5/2012

Project: CATEX for Saddle Butte Pipeline LLC, to authorize the option to install up to an 8-inch gas line or up to a 6-inch water line in place of the 4-inch liquid fuel line previously approved in the Saddle Butte Pipeline, Saddle Butte Trunk Lines EA, September, 2010, FONSI, September 9, 2010.

Nature of Proposed Action: The purpose of the proposed action is to authorize Saddle Butte Pipeline the option to install up to an 8-inch gas line or up to a 6-inch water line in place of the previously approved 4-inch liquid fuel pipeline. The proposed action would occur within a 100-foot right-of-way that was previously approved in the Environmental Assessment Addendum for Saddle Butte Pipeline, Saddle Butte Trunk Lines, FONSI signed October 1, 2010. The 4-inch liquid fuel line was planned to be installed to provide a lower BTU dry fuel source at the pad locations to run possible wellhead or compressor equipment. It was later determined that this line would no longer be needed. The proposed water or gas line would transport produced water or gas from the wellhead to a central location, where water would be disposed of or gas would be collected and transported to a central processing facility before transportation to market. The proposed project would reduce the amount of trucks on the road transporting produced water to disposal facilities, or capture natural gas currently flared for use as a fuel source. No additional environmental impacts outside of those identified in the EA would result from the proposed action.

Exclusion category and number: 516 DM 10.5F(1)

### Evaluation of Exceptions to use of Categorical Exclusion:

1. This action would have significant adverse effects on public health or safety. No X Yes \_\_\_\_\_
2. This action would have an adverse effect on unique geographical features, such as wetlands, wild or scenic rivers, refuges, floodplains, rivers placed on nationwide river inventory, or prime or unique farmlands. No X Yes \_\_\_\_\_
3. The action will have highly controversial environmental effects. No X Yes \_\_\_\_\_
4. The action will have highly uncertain environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. No X Yes \_\_\_\_\_
5. This action will establish a precedent for future actions. No X Yes \_\_\_\_\_

6. This action is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant environmental effects. No   X   Yes
7. This action will affect properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No   X   Yes
8. This action will affect a species listed, or proposed to be listed as endangered or threatened. No   X   Yes
9. This action threatens to violate federal, state, local or tribal law or requirements imposed for protection of the environment. No   X   Yes
10. This action will have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. No   X   Yes
11. This action will limit access to, and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners, or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. No   X   Yes
12. This action will contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species. No   X   Yes

A "yes" to any of the above exceptions will require that an EA be prepared.

NEPA Action - - - CE   X   EA       

Preparer's Name and Title: Grady Wolf, Environmental Planner, KL&J, Bismarck, ND

Regional Archeologist Concurrence with Item 7 Carson R. Mendenhall

Concur: Jeffrey R. Davis Date: 4-10-2012  
Regional Office/Agency Environmental Coordinator

Concur: Tim J. Bente Date: 4-10-2012  
Acting Regional Director/Superintendent